

OFFICE OF
THE NEW ENGLAND ASSOCIATION
FOR THE RELIEF OF UNEMPLOYED

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Chas. E. Buell, Sec'y.

New Haven, Conn.

May 3^d 1879

Wm Lloyd Garrison
Boston
Mass;

My dear Sir,
Is the most essential step to be taken to make the migration of the colored people a success, and prevent their destitution making them a calamity to the state receiving them! is to suitably provide for them upon their arrival at their destination. I beg to urge upon your notice the security ^{and} Economy of Establishing them in Co-operative Communities.

Under such a system they could be under Managers skilled in Agriculture ^{and} by employing numbers under such management the largest profits are derived and the least capital involved. and the production of beet sugar, and miscellaneous crops, other than wheat, and corn, would employ large numbers most profitably.

Although the ideal society is not always realized

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in the efforts of the Shakers and Oneida perfectionists and others who have adopted such a system to more equally distribute the burdens, and the advantages of life. Yet they are singularly prosperous. There are good individuals in community life, with property estimated at \$23,000,000. These communities are usually based upon agriculture, and revert for their origin to some religious belief. Chief among which are the Shakers, Oneida perfectionists, and the community at Amana, Iowa, Bethel Harmony, Scoria and the Brotherhood of the new life. The largest is at Amana, Iowa, where the family relation is held in honor. This community has 30,000 acres under cultivation, and various industries besides, and is stated by the Scientific American to be the most successful effort in agriculture ever known.

Another effort which may be cited as a precedent of the employment of numbers under one

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AND THE BUREAU OF THE ASSOCIATION

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judicious management, is found in the case of the Cherokee Indians, who were of the most degraded type, and proverbially indolent. They were removed by Government from the mountains of North Carolina ^{and} Georgia to the fertile lands of the Indian Territory supplied with buildings, farm implements seed grain, and provisions, and placed under Superintendents who instructed them in raising cotton, grain ^{and} cattle, teachers found their way among them, and mark the result. Although they lost to excess twenty millions dollars in the war, they have recovered without assistance, they have churches, schools and a college in their own language, and a deposited school fund of \$1,500,000. — Thousands of the colored people are as destitute of the capacity ~~and~~ experience needed to manage a place of their own, as they are of the means to equip one, and there would be less of discontent and misdirection

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and consequent loss, under a co-operative system of relief, as compared with the efforts of these same individuals in single handed efforts upon isolated farms.

Another essential step towards the success of these people is the location.

It is stated upon good authority, which should be substantiated, that under treaties made with the Indians of the Indian Territory in 1865, there was purchased and ceded to the Government 14,000,000 acres of land in the Indian Territory, and these treaties expressly state that the purchase is made in compliance with a desire on the part of the United States to settle freedmen thereon.

This land is immediately west of the 94th degree west longitude, and ninety ~~and~~ One hundred miles due south from Independence, and Wichita, Kas; the nearest railroad points, and with good government roads, thereto.

These lands are well timbered and watered

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and unsurpassed for the production of emuls,
grazing and fruit raising.

Steam boats ought to be chartered, and heavily insured
and a line of boats, owned by those wholly
in sympathy with the elevation of these oppressed
millions, be regularly run to convey them,
to start a new state.

There is to be a mass meeting in this city, at an
early day, to bring the subject, in a general way,
before this public, and solicit contributions
after that meeting a permanent organization is
contemplated, and the effort will be made to
establish a national organization, or become
identified with any effort known to be made
in that direction.

Hoping my interest in the subject will
be accepted as sufficient apology for taking the
liberty to write so at length, I am

Very Truly
Charles E. Buell

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